

COMMUNICATION FROM THE  
CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
OFFICE OF THE CLERK,  
Washington, DC, July 28, 1999.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington,  
DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted to Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on July 28, 1999 at 10:10 a.m., that the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 66.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

JEFF TRANDAH, Clerk.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain 15 one-minutes on each side.

RESPONSIBLE GAMING EDUCATION  
WEEK

(Mr. Gibbons asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, as Members of Congress, we should always be encouraged when the private sector tackles one of the social problems facing our Nation without government help.

Such is the case with our Nation's gaming industry. However, it should also be important to recall that a vast majority of Americans who choose to gamble do so responsibly.

In an effort to emphasize the casino gaming entertainment industry's commitment to responsible gaming, August 2 to August 6 has been designated as "responsible gaming education week."

This campaign follows last year's inaugural implementation of this successful program. The idea is designed to raise the awareness of persons with disordered gaming habits and to further educate casino employees and customers about the importance of responsible gaming.

During this week, all casino employees will be asked to actively promote and institute responsible gaming practices within their companies. As a part of this effort, over 250,000 educational brochures on the characteristics of disordered gambling and the importance of responsible gaming will be provided to casino employees across America.

Mr. Speaker, obviously the gaming industry is taking positive steps to improve the gaming entertainment opportunities by helping those with addictive problems.

EYES WIDE SHUT

(Mr. CUMMINGS asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, when I think of the manner in which the GOP tax cut legislation was drafted, the title of the movie "Eyes Wide Shut" comes to mind.

Still, this is no sultry suspense film. In this horror, we will only find a terrible plot that sacrifices Medicare and Social Security and steals \$112 billion away from school construction.

The stars of this movie, the House Republicans, act with a level of irresponsibility that automatically comes from doing anything with your eyes shut. With such blocked vision, it is hard to believe that they have a clear view of the problems or their solutions.

Beyond all the hype, the GOP tax cut is hardly a masterpiece. It is poorly directed, horribly produced, and the Republican actors demonstrate a sophomoric concern for people of our country.

I can only hope that their vision will go from wide shut to wide open and that we will ultimately be able to fulfill our duty of fiscal responsibility and public service to the American people.

LOOK OUT AMERICA, BIG BROTHER  
MAY BE WATCHING AGAIN

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, hold on to our floppy disks. The Clinton administration, everybody's favorite Big Brother, may soon be following our computers' every move.

According to the New York Times, administration officials are contemplating the creation of an extensive computer monitoring system overseen by the FBI and the GSA that will have the capability of collecting data from computer networks all across this country.

This news should send a chill up the spine of anybody who has followed this administration's actions on privacy issues. Remember, these are the folks who want each and every American to have a special identification number so that their medical records could be tracked by the Federal Government.

These are the folks who wanted to collect a host of personal information about the millions of Americans who receive in-home care from Medicare. These are the folks who wanted to give the FBI the authority to wire tap one out of every 100 phones in this country.

So when they start talking about computer security, be wary. Let us keep their hands off our e-mail.

REPUBLICAN TAX BILL

(Mr. MENENDEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, Republicans keep saying that the money in the budget surplus belongs to the

American people, falsely implying that we Democrats disagree with that.

For the record, we do not disagree. The surplus belongs to the American people. They are the ones who have paid for it. They are the ones who worked for it. That is why we are listening to the American people, who are telling us that their values is to use the surplus to pay down the national debt and to save Social Security and Medicare.

Republicans, on the other hand, are listening to all the special interests and high-priced Washington lobbyists, who are telling them to waste the surplus on a trillion dollar tax giveaway.

So, Mr. Speaker, actions speak louder than words. It is we Democrats who are listening to the voices and values of America's working families. Because we know this Government does belong to them and they are demanding that we exercise some real fiscal discipline, pay down the national debt, and extend the life of Social Security and Medicare. Democrats are committed to doing that.

If the Republicans really believed the surplus belongs to the American people, they would listen to the voices of those people.

POLITICAL PRISONERS AND PRISONERS  
OF CONSCIENCE IN CUBA

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, while many may turn a blind eye to the reality that plagues the Cuban people, Amnesty International does not. It monitors and advocates on behalf of political prisoners and prisoners of conscience in the island of Cuba.

A recent case is that of political activist and human rights dissident Nestor Rodriguez Lobaina, who was arbitrarily arrested again on July 11 of this year solely for exercising his right to freedom of expression.

His whereabouts now? Unknown.

The prisoner of conscience Marta Beatriz Roque, who was sentenced by Castro's kangaroo courts earlier this year after languishing for close to 2 years in a squalid jail cell for exercising her human rights and civil liberties, was severely punished by the regime on July 16 for refusing to eat and staying mute in a silent protest for the unjust incarceration that she is subjected to.

These examples of the Cuban dictatorship's cruelties are grave and numerous. Other countries may wish to ignore them. However, the U.S. Congress cannot and indeed we must not.

HINCKLEY SHOULD GO TO JAIL  
AND WE SHOULD THROW AWAY  
THE KEYS

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)